

## **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING DISTRIBUTED COMMUNICATION ROUTING**

### **Abstract of the Disclosure**

A method and apparatus that includes processing for providing distributed communication routing that begins by obtaining registration information from a plurality of forwarding engines. The processing continues by identifying the plurality of forwarding engines based on the registration information. Having done this, the process proceeds to generate at least one specific forwarding table for at least one corresponding forwarding engine of the plurality of forwarding engines. The processing then continues by forwarding the specific forwarding table to the corresponding forwarding engine. In an alternate embodiment, the processing determines internal routing connections and external routing connections for the plurality of forwarding engines after identifying the forwarding engines. The alternate processing continues by generating at least one external forwarding table, which provides forwarding information to routers external to a distributed router, for at least some of the plurality of forwarding engines. The processing then continues by generating at least one specific internal forwarding table, which provides information to a specific forwarding engine to route data within the distributed routing to other forwarding engines, for a corresponding forwarding engine. Having generated the internal and external forwarding tables, the tables are forwarded to the corresponding forwarding engine or engines.